GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2966
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2007
HOSTEL FACILITIES TO SCs/STs STUDENTS
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to ensure that students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are provided hostel facilities in educational institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Human Resource Development is implementing following schemes:

- The scheme of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) is designed to encourage greater participation of girls in education at upper primary level belonging to SC, ST, OBC and Minority communities in educationally backward blocks having high gender gaps and low female literacy. Under the scheme, 2077 residential schools have been sanctioned covering 222 SC blocks and 441 ST blocks. 75% seats are reserved for girls from marginalized/minority communities and remaining 25% are made available to girls from families below poverty line. 1039 KGBVs are operational with an enrolment of 62816 girls having 27% SC and 30% ST girls.

- Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas(JNVs) are residential in nature. JNVs provide reservation of seats to S C and ST students in proportion to their population in the concerned Districts provided that in no district such reservation is less than the national average, i.e. 15% and 7.5% respectively. So far 540 Navodaya Vidyalayas have been established in 34 States and Union Territories. The enrolment of SC and ST students was 23.87% and 15.19% respectively during 2005-06.
- Under the scheme for Strengthening of Boarding and Hostel facilities for Girl Students of Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools, financial assistance is provided to the societies and NGOs to provide boarding and hostel facilities to the girls belonging to rural, desert and hilly areas particularly those belonging to SC, ST and educationally backward minorities studying at Secondary and Higher Secondary stages.

Because of some problems encountered in its effective implementation, it has been decided not to release any grant pertaining to the year 2005-06 & 2006-07, pending evaluation of the scheme. At present no new application pertaining to the year 2005-06 & 2006-07 is being considered under the scheme.

- Under the scheme of "Special Scheme for construction of Women's Hostels", University Grants Commission (UGC) provides financial assistance to Colleges/Universities and Deemed Universities to provide safe environment and to encourage the mobility of women students including SCs and STs for pursuing higher education.

Apart from the above, Ministries of Social Justice & Empowerment and Tribal Affairs are also implementing the schemes of Hostels for SC boys and girls, scheme of Hostels for ST boys and girls, Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan areas, Grants in Aid to Voluntary Organisations for setting up and running residential & non- residential schools and Eklavya Model Residential Schools.